### STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA



# ACTIVITY AND PROGRAM REPORT FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2002-2003

SEPTEMBER 2003

Activity and Program Report for Academic Year 2002-2003

Copyright 2003 by the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana.

State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana ISTA Center 150 W. Market Street, Suite 500 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 Voice: 317-232-2350 Fax: 317-232-3260 grants@ssaci.state.in.us http://www.state.in.us/ssaci/

#### STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION



#### Table of Contents

COMMISSION MEMBERSII
COMMISSION STAFFIII
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORIV
ACTIVITIES1
BIENNIAL BUDGET1
CHALLENGES TO THE BUDGET
FILING DEADLINE
GRADS       2         EGRADS       3         IXCHANGE       3         ESTUDENT       3         FEE REMISSION PROGRAMS       3         CORE 40 AND ACADEMIC HONORS       3         CHIPS       3         WORK STUDY       4         PROGRAMS       4
THE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT
COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES7

GEA	<i>R UP</i>	7
	R UP Scholarships	
	lar Track	
	OF VETERAN AND PUBLIC SAFET	Y
	R SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT	
	AM	
	ram growth	
	AR'S PROGRAM 1	
	MIC HONORS AND CORE 40 1	
	ACH COORDINATION 1	
	TED SPECIAL PROGRAMS 1	
	Hoosier Scholar Program	11
	Minority Teacher and Special	
Educ	ation Services Scholarship Program	
 The S	State Work Study Program	
	Nursing Fund Scholarship Program	
The F	Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship	_
	ram	12
	Reciprocity Agreement Program	
	ter Grant	
AWARD	S GRANTED 1	3
TABLES	S: SUMMARY OF MAJOR	
AXXADD		
AWARD	OS AND GRANTS 1	4
AWAKD	PS AND GRANTS	
AWARD	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice,	
AWARD	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National	14
	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards	14
CHARTS	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF	14 15
CHARTS STUDEN	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002	14 15
CHARTS STUDEN	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1	14 15
CHARTS STUDEN	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1 Students Receiving State Grants by	14 15
CHARTS STUDEN	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1 Students Receiving State Grants by Institutional Type	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1 Students Receiving State Grants by	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN 2003 BY	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1 Students Receiving State Grants by Institutional Type	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN 2003 BY TABLE:	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN 2003 BY TABLE: GRANT	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21st Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards S: COMPARISON OF NTS AND GRANTS IN 2002-INSTITUTIONAL TYPE. 1 Students Receiving State Grants by Institutional Type	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN 2003 BY TABLE: GRANT EXPENI	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21st Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards	14 15 -
CHARTS STUDEN 2003 BY  TABLE: GRANT EXPENI	Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21st Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards	14 15 -

#### **ACTIVITY AND PROGRAM REPORT 2002-2003**



#### **Commission Members**

By Congressional District\*

As of July/August 2003

#### State Student Assistance Commission

1<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Alfonso Lerma, Jr. Crown Point, IN

Term: 2003

2<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Dr. J. Douglas Nelson

Anderson, IN Term: 2002 Secretary

3<sup>RD</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Vacant

 $4^{TH}$  Congressional District

Mr. Thomas K. Borne Fort Wayne, IN

Term: 2003

5<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Mr. Mike Kennedy Kokomo, IN Term: 2004

Vice Chairperson

STUDENT MEMBER
Ms. Deborah Crissman

Valparaiso, IN Term: 2005

Purdue University North Central

 $6^{^{TH}}Congressional\ District$ 

Ms. Peggi Little Fishers, IN Term: 2003

1 erm: 2003

7<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ms. Betty Martin Terre Haute, IN Term: 2003

8<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ms. Katherine Startin

Velpen, IN Term: 2004

9<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Mrs. Sylvia Kiel Columbus, IN Term: 2002 Chairperson

 $10^{\text{TH}}$  Congressional District

Mr. Steven Campbell Indianapolis, IN Term: 2004

<sup>\*</sup>Because Indiana now has nine congressional districts instead of ten, commission members will be appointed accordingly as current terms expire

#### STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION



#### **Commission Staff**

As of July/August 2003

#### Administrative Division

Patricia Moss Executive Director
Dennis Obergfell Deputy Director

Nick Vesper Director of Policy Analysis & Research

Helen A. Curley Executive Secretary

Yvonne Heflin
Basu Maharjan
Director of Information Technology
David Falls
Senior Systems Analyst and Developer

#### Accounting Division

David Highfill Controller

Bonnie Davis Accounting Assistant
Larry Walters Mail Room Supervisor

#### Grant and Scholarship Division

Dennis Obergfell Director

Ramesh Dangol Assistant Director
Ada Davis Program Counselor

Kathy Moore Program Counselor & Outreach Coordinator

#### Special Programs Division

Yvonne Heflin Director Tina Humphrey Secretary

Zerda Blackmon Clerical Support

#### Twenty-first Century Scholars Division

Seana Murphy Director

Timothy Martin Deputy Director

Jennifer Joseph
Allison Knox
Ginny Ort

GEAR UP Coordinator
Scholar Coordinator
Administrative Support

Karyn Romer AmeriCorps & Volunteer Coordinator



#### A Message from the Executive Director

... Patricia Moss

The last year of the biennium, 2002-2003, saw a continuation of unprecedented levels of support for students in Indiana colleges and universities. The Commission made awards to nearly 49,000 students for a total of \$135,892,171.

Even with greater economic challenges, rising tuition costs, and increasing enrollments, full-need students at public institutions received up to \$4,700 in grants and similar students attending independent colleges and universities received as much as \$9,100 in tuition assistance.

A well-coordinated and relentless effort on the part of SSACI commissioners and staff during the spring budget session resulted in increases in appropriations for the next biennium that will allow SSACI to avoid cutting awards for most students. In a legislative session that resulted in massive, across-the-board budget reductions for most state agencies, this was no small accomplishment.

The future of Indiana's economy rests with many factors over which we have little control. However, greater access to, and greater choice, in higher education will continue to be our commitment to Hoosier students and a mission on which we will not compromise.



#### **ACTIVITIES**

In the past year, the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI) continued to meet its goals to make college more *affordable* for increasing numbers of students, to foster *choice* in where students could attend college, to increase academic *preparedness* for college, and to use *research* and *technology* to improve the delivery of awards to Hoosier students.

Maintaining a tradition of excellence in providing awards to Hoosier families is only one aspect of SSACI's efforts in 2002-03.

#### **Biennial Budget**

A major activity of SSACI this year was the preparation of the 2003-5 (FY04 and FY05) biennial budget. Beginning in August of 2002 and ending in April of 2003, SSACI worked closely with stakeholders in formulating and presenting its budget request. Presentations were made to the State Budget Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Education Committee, and the House Ways and Means Committee.

In formulating the budget, SSACI also worked closely with representatives of the public colleges, the independent colleges and the financial aid community. With the support of the governor's office and the legislature, SSACI received increases in its award and program budgets compared to the 2002-03 year and compared to other state agencies. But the appropriations might not be large enough to offset tuition increases without revisions in how SSACI makes awards.

the planning for which started in December of 2002.

#### Challenges To The Budget

The academic year 2002-03 saw a number of challenges for SSACI. The Purdue University System introduced a two-tiered tuition system with new students paying an additional \$500 to \$1,000 depending on the campus. The increases amounted to 34%. At the same time, the other public colleges raised their tuition on average 10% to 15%. These increases immediately impacted the 21st Century Scholarship and the National Guard Supplemental Grant, both of which are indexed to the current tuition charged to students. These unanticipated increases put a strain on SSACI's biennial budgets that had been created in 2000-01, but because of good fiscal stewardship, SSACI was able to fully fund the increases for 2002-03. The increases will not impact the Higher Education Award and Freedom of Choice award until 2003-04.

#### Response To Budget Shortfall

An important change occurred during the year: the 2003 General Assembly changed the way in which SSACI could reduce the Higher Education Award and Freedom of Choice award in the event funds were not adequate to meet demand. The method had been *pro-ration* in which all awards would be reduced uniformly, regardless of the college the student attended and regardless of financial need. The new method allows SSACI to set a maximum award for each of the institutional sectors: public, independent, and proprietary. This change together with limited appropriations meant that SSACI had to change how it calculated awards for the 2003-04 year. In anticipation of the



changes, SSACI began planning in December of 2002 and implemented them in its GRADS system throughout the spring before the legislative session ended in April.

#### **New Initiatives**

Besides redesigning its award calculation system, the academic year 2002-03 saw a number of new initiatives from changing the FAFSA filing deadline to the full implementation of new procedures on refunding state grants.

#### Filing Deadline

In order to be considered for state aid, SSACI has long required the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be postmarked by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Beginning in November of 2002, SSACI began a campaign to inform students, parents, high school counselors, and the financial aid community that the filing criteria and deadline was being changed effective for the 2003-04 year: The FAFSA had to be received by the federal processor by March 10th, 2003. It is anticipated that this change will increase the number of eligible students while cutting down the number of late-filer appeals. At the same time, the Agency started a campaign to encourage more students to file the FAFSA on line rather than use the paper version. Filing on line is faster and less error prone.

#### GEAR UP Summer Scholarship

The GEAR UP Summer Scholarship program is designed to help 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars get the classes they need during the summer in order to graduate within four years. At many colleges students are required to live on campus while they take

certain summer classes. The Scholarship was expanded to cover room and board expenses as well as tuition costs for eligible Scholars taking needed summer school classes.

#### Return of State Funds

Beginning with the 2002 academic year, SSACI fully implemented a policy that requires a student to be enrolled full-time at the end of four weeks of classes or the school's refund period, whichever is shorter, in order to receive any of its major grants. The policy also requires schools to pro-rate awards if the school's refund period is longer than four weeks and the student's tuition is reduced because of a refund. Moreover, schools that charge by the credit hour are required to recalculate awards based on the student's actual credit hour load if it is less than the standard 15 credit hours per term.

#### **Continuing Improvements**

#### **GRADS**

The Grant Reporting And Delivery System is a comprehensive client-server system that is the major part of the Agency's electronic data interchange system.

- It tracks parent and student supplied data from the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA), which students must file each year with the federal government.
- It classifies students according to the type of program and award they are eligible to receive.
- It allows monitoring of FAFSA data to inform students of errors that could prevent them from receiving awards.



- It tracks statutory requirements for award eligibility.
- It creates awards based on the most accurate data available.
- It allows rapid changes in awards if college choices or family finances change before the start of classes.
- It creates electronic rosters of students and awards that can be accessed and processed by colleges.
- It enhanced the ability of the Agency to use Electronic Funds Transfer between the state and colleges for award payments.

#### **eGRADS**

In order to bring accurate and timely information to the financial aid offices of the Commission's eligible colleges and universities, **eGRADS** was developed and made available first in 1999. The on-line web-based application allows colleges to access GRADS data to verify current student awards and display award history data. In addition, colleges can examine the status of their student's financial aid application for the coming academic year as soon as the data is available. In 2002 the system was enhanced to display fee remission grants from the CVO Program.

#### *iXchange*

In cooperation with Access Indiana, the Agency improved its web-based system that enables colleges and universities to download student award information.

iXchange ("information exchange") is an easy to use and secure system that replaced a multi-stage process for accessing data files. Besides award information the colleges can access copies of all documentation.

#### eStudent

SSACI's eStudent is a web-based application that enables Hoosier students to view their award history, check on problems with their financial aid applications, and change their college choice. It was enhanced in 2002 to allow students to print their official awards on demand. The fact that students can make first-choice college changes on line has reduced the work of the Agency's staff and reduced the number of awards being sent to the wrong school.

#### Fee Remission Programs

In 2002, the Indiana legislature expanded the fee remission program to include the children and spouses of emergency medical technicians killed in the line of duty. The *Child of Veteran and Public Safety Officer Supplemental Grant Program (CVO Program)* previously included the children of certain disabled or deceased veterans and the children and spouses of certain police and firefighters. The program is available only at publicly funded Indiana colleges and universities.

#### Core 40 and Academic Honors

In 1997, the Agency introduced increased awards for high school students earning the Core 40 endorsement. In the following year the program was expanded to include Academic Honors Diplomas. Core 40 students with at least a 2.00 high school GPA could be eligible for an award 10% higher than otherwise, and Academic Honors students with at least a 3.00 GPA could receive an award 20% higher.

#### **CHIPS**

The Core 40 and Honors Internet uPdate System is a web-based internet application



that allows high school counselors to list pertinent data on their Academic Honors and Core 40 graduates. The data is used by SSACI to evaluate the student's eligibility for increased financial aid. Counselors can access the system from their offices and can update changes in eligibility throughout the summer before awards are created. Colleges and universities use the data for recruitment purposes.

#### Work Study

SSACI's work-study program provides a unique opportunity for college students to earn money during the summer or during college. To maximize the benefits of the program for both students and employers, SSACI greatly enhanced the web-based internet application WERRS—Work Experience Resume and Referral System. This system allows SSACI to match students with particular skills, as described in their on-line resumes, to employers needing those skills. WERRS was enhanced to enable potential employers to access and download lists of eligible students.

#### **PROGRAMS**

The Agency administers three types of award programs: a mixed need based and merit award that is a combination of a tuition subsidy and a family's or student's ability to pay for college; a supplement to the need based award for participants in special programs; and a number of targeted awards based on merit or financial need.

#### The Higher Education Grant

This award is the core award administered by the Agency. It requires financial need, full time college enrollment and Indiana residency. It can be used only for tuition and certain fees. It is based on three factors:

- For each eligible postsecondary institution, the *tuition and fees* SSACI will subsidize.
- The *rate* at which the allowable tuition and fees are subsidized.
- The parent's or student's *ability to pay* for a college education.

The award formula is simple:

## RATE × TUITION AND FEES ABILITY TO PAY

To receive this award a student must file a FAFSA so that it is received by the federal processor by March 10<sup>th</sup>, meet the residency requirements, attend college full time, be in a degree-granting program, and maintain satisfactory academic practice.

#### **Tuition and fees**

Tuition and fees are set early in the financial aid year. They are determined by each college based on a typical 30 credit hour per year course load plus any regularly fees assessed to all students. At public institutions the allowable tuition and fees is usually the advertised tuition. At independent (private) colleges it is capped at a maximum amount usually less than the advertised tuition.

The cap is determined each year by looking at the true cost of tuition at Indiana's public colleges. This cost is roughly the state appropriation per student plus the amount a student pays in tuition. The cap is based on statutory formula that combines certain state appropriations and



public college tuitions. For 2002-03 the private college tuition cap was \$9,300.

#### **Subsidy rate**

There are three subsidy rates: 100% for Academic Honors graduates, 90% for Core 40 graduates, and 80% for all other students.

It is through the subsidy rate that the Agency introduces the merit component of the awards. Students who earn an Academic Honors diploma, for example, receive 20% more in awards than students who earn only a regular high school diploma. Those completing a Core 40 curriculum receive 10% more.

#### Ability to pay

The parent's or student's ability to pay is determined by the federal government from FAFSA data. Unlike the federal government and other states, Indiana does not count dependent student earnings as part of the ability to pay. Thus students who work to earn money to pay for college can use that money for the costs of education not subsidized by SSACI such as room and board or textbooks. The following table shows the average ability to pay by institutional type.

Average Ability To Pay For College Academic Year 2002-2003

Institutional Type	Ability to Pay
Public	\$1,383
Private	\$2,594
Proprietary	\$321
Reciprocity Agreement	\$1,153
Community College	\$620

#### The Higher Education Award

If a student attends a public institution, the Higher Education Grant is called the *Higher Education Award (HEA)*. The general assembly appropriates a separate budget for this award.

#### Freedom of Choice Program

If a student attends an independent college, the Higher Education Grant is broken up into two parts: 42% is designated the Higher Education Award and 58% the *Freedom of Choice (FOC)* award. Students attending a private college are thus not given an additional award (although their awards are higher because the tuition and fees subsidized are higher). The general assembly appropriates a separate budget for the FOC award but it is supplemented each year with funds from the Higher Education Award.

#### The Part-time Grant Program

The award is designed to encourage degree-seeking part-time undergraduates to start or complete their Associate or Baccalaureate degrees by subsidizing part-time tuition costs.

Students must be enrolled for at least 3 but less than 12 credit hours to receive the grant. Funds are directly allocated to public and private colleges based on their past use of the grants and available funds, which can vary year by year. Colleges determine eligibility for the grants subject to Commission guidelines and review.

In 2002-03 the typical student was enrolled for 7.5 hours and had earned a total of 46.5 hours before receiving the grant.



Part-time Awards
Percentage of Students by Degree Type
Academic Years 1998-99 to 2002-03

Year	2-Year Degree	4-Year Degree
1998	45.3	54.7
1999	45.1	54.9
2000	49.1	50.9
2001	50.5	49.5
2002	48.5	49.5

Students Receiving Part-Time Grants Academic Years 1998-99 to 2002-03

Year	Students	Awards
1998	4,680	\$3,814,984
1999	5,762	\$5,025,841
2000	6,620	\$5,902,957
2001	6,366	\$5,344,173
2002	5,764	\$4,849,701

#### National Guard Supplemental Grant

This program started in the fall of 2000. It is intended to increase the ability of the Indiana National Guard, Army and Air Force, to recruit new members and retain present personnel. Until this program was established, Indiana was only 1 of 12 states and territories with no state tuition assistance programs targeted to National Guard members.

The NGS grant is similar to the Twenty-first Century Scholars award, but there are differences. First, the NGS is available to both full-time and part-time Guard members. Second, because of special Guard certification, a student could be eligible for the NGS one term, not be for the second, but be reinstated for

a third. Finally, the NGS is available only at Indiana public institutions. The NGS grant is a supplement to either the HEA or the Part Time Grant (PTG). The idea of the NGS is simple: it guarantees to pay up to 100% of certain tuition charges after the HEA or the PTG and other tuition-specific aid are applied. Members of the Indiana National Guard must meet all requirements for the Higher Education Grant, be in active drilling status, and not have been AWOL in the preceding twelve months.

National Guard Supplemental Grants 2000-01 to 2002-03

Year	Students	Awards
2000	503	\$1,026,094
2001	861	\$1,842,824
2002	923	\$2,214,787

## The Twenty-first Century Scholars Program

The Twenty-first Century Scholars Program is designed to support and encourage youth from lower-income families to enter college through early intervention strategies and grants. Effective in 2002, students could enroll in the program when in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The grant portion of the program is a supplement to the Higher Education Grant. It is the difference between the student's tuition and fees and the HEG. The program covers 100% of approved tuition. It is available to Scholars if they enroll in college as a full time student within two years of high school graduation.

The early intervention strategies are aimed at enrolled Scholars in the



eighth through twelfth grades. They are administered from 16 sites around the state covering all 92 counties. The sites are under contract with Office of Twenty-first Century Scholars and are closely monitored.

The purposes of the Scholar's Program are to:

- Reduce the number of students who withdraw from high school before graduation;
- Increase the number of students prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation;
- Increase the number of low-income students entering institutions of higher education;
- Decrease drug and alcohol use by encouraging higher education pursuits;
- Increase individual economic productivity; and
- Improve the overall quality of life for Indiana residents.

The Scholars program is nationally recognized as a successful early intervention program. It was the topic of a "Best Practices" workshop and meeting sponsored by the National Governor's Association in August of 2002. One of its key features is its Parent's Project. Research has repeatedly shown that parental support and encouragement are the most important factors in a high schoolers decision to go to college. The Scholar's Program works with parents so that they can fully support their children.

#### **Early Intervention**

Scholars engage in a wide variety of early intervention strategies when they are in high school. For example, to introduce more students to college life, the Scholars

Program has a minimum standard of each of its regional support sites to provide at least 10 campus visits a year.

Additionally, virtual campus visits have become popular with many students although they are not counted towards the regional support sites minimum standard.

In addition, the Office of Twenty-First Century Scholars Program worked with local colleges and universities to sponsor a Rising Senior Camp that allowed 160 Scholars access to college campus life during 2 day 1 night retreat. Additionally, 3 state supported institutions and 2 private institutions sponsored Scholar Days.

#### Community Based Activities

To help ensure that young people from atrisk environments stay on track to fulfill their pledge of good citizenry and their goal of higher education, Scholars must have the commitment of the entire community. In addition to enabling Scholars to earn tuition assistance, the program engages Scholars, their families, and their communities in a holistic, network of support initiatives. The aim of these initiatives is to build resiliency—to foster an academically encouraging environment for Scholars, while empowering parents to serve as the educational leaders in Scholars' lives.

#### **GEAR UP**

The Twenty-first Century Scholars
Program is in its fourth year of a five-year
\$25 million grant from the U. S.
Department of Education. *Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Under-graduate Programs*, or GEAR UP,
provides funds for early intervention and scholarships for students who face



financial and other barriers to college success. Five million dollars per year provides resources to expand regional support services and to fund scholarship programs.

#### **GEAR UP Scholarships**

Many Scholars need to take basic courses that apply to general credit hour requirements but not to their major programs. If a Scholar takes basic college courses in the summer before enrolling in a regular program in the fall, existing state grants will not pay for any costs. Similarly, Scholars who take basic courses in the fall semester will find themselves falling behind in their major program requirements unless they can attend the following summer school. The *Summer Scholarships* fill the gap for these Scholars.

The Scholars program has expanded the capacity of the 16 regional support sites to provide early intervention services and to prepare Scholars to succeed in college. Of equal importance is the continuing support of Scholars in the college setting. In 2002 the Mentoring Scholarship program was enhanced. This program enables each of the mentoring programs at the five largest public institutions to hire up to four Scholar Mentors. Money is paid to the colleges to hire work-study students through their existing mentoring programs. The students are junior or senior Scholars and expected to work in the mentoring program up to 20 hours per week for 12 months of the year.

#### **Scholar Track**

Collecting information on early intervention activities for Scholars in high school is essential for the continuing success of the Program. *Scholar Track* is a comprehensive web-based data recording system that tracks Scholars and their parents who are engaged in the activities offered by the sixteen sites across the state. Data is collected on a weekly or monthly basis and used to finetune early intervention strategies and meet Scholar needs.

The following table shows the students served and hours spent on early intervention strategies activities across the state.

GEAR UP/21<sup>st</sup> Century Early Intervention Program

-	Buily Inited ventur	011 1 10814111
Year	Students Served	Hours on Activities
2001	8,932	67,659
2002	14,625	182,350
2003*	15,530	170,045

\*The 2003 data are through June

As can be seen, the amount of time Scholars spend on activities has increased dramatically in 2002. Large increases in the number of students and services are expected in 2003 as well.

#### Child of Veteran and Public Safety Officer Supplemental Grant Program

This program—the CVO Program—provides tuition and fee assistance at public colleges for eligible children of disabled Indiana veterans and eligible children and spouses of certain Indiana public safety officers killed in the line of duty. The grant pays 100% of tuition and

#### STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION



program related mandatory fees; it does not cover fees such as room and board.

Students who might be covered under the *veterans*' portion of the program are:

- Certain graduates of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home
- Children of a Purple Heart recipient or a wounded veteran
- Children of deceased or disabled veteran
- Children of POW/MIA from the Vietnam War

Some program restrictions apply and financial assistance may be limited to a maximum number of credit hours. The veteran must meet, or have met, certain Indiana residency requirements, and the child must be the biological child or legally adopted dependent child of the veteran. An application is required through the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA).

Students who might be covered under the *public safety officers*' portion of the program are:

- Child of a police officer, firefighter or emergency medical technician killed in the line of duty
- Spouse of a police officer, firefighter or emergency medical technician killed in the line of duty

In most cases the deceased public safety officer must be covered under the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund and in addition be one of the following:

- a regular, paid police officer;
- a regular, paid firefighter;
- a volunteer firefighter;
- a county police reserve officer;
- a city police reserve officer;

- a paramedic; or
- an emergency medical technician.

Some program restrictions apply and financial assistance may be limited. Children must be less than 23 years of age, full-time students, and the biological or legally adopted dependent child of the public safety officer. Spouses must be enrolled in an undergraduate program.

An application was introduced by the Agency in 2002-03. As part of the application, the student must have an official letter from the appropriate public safety department verifying that the officer was killed in the line of duty. SSACI verifies the information with the appropriate state agency.

Fee Remissions Used by Students Academic Year 2002-2003

Fee Remission Type	Students	Fee Remission
Pupil in Soldier and Sailors Home	15	\$23,888
Child of Purple Heart recipient	435	\$970,249
Child of deceased or disabled veteran	5,357	\$13,630,513
Child of deceased public safety officer	8	\$35,686
Spouse of deceased public safety officer	1	\$3,459
Total	5,816	\$14,663,795



#### Program growth

#### Scholar's Program

The following table shows the growth in the Scholars program since 1995. It includes only the high school graduates for that cohort year. The students counted in the Enrolled column signed up for the program in elementary school but never affirmed their Pledge in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The program is working hard to increase the affirmation rates of students.

21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Enrolled And Affirmed Since 1995

Cohort	Enrolled	Affirmed
1995	3,156	2,563
1996	3,477	2,838
1997	2,626	2,609
1998	2,593	2,641
1999	2,644	3,002
2000	3,196	3,410
2001	4,140	3,927
2002	4,403	3,896

The following tables show how the program has grown in the number of students entering college and receiving a Scholarship. The table of used awards includes all Scholars enrolled in college for the year.

New Scholars Filing A FAFSA Academic Years 1995 To 2002

Year	New Scholars
1995	1,424
1996	2,562
1997	2,327
1998	2,342

Year	New Scholars
1999	2,588
2000	3,248
2001	3,514
2002	3,811

Awards Used by 21<sup>ST</sup> Century Scholars Academic Years 1995 to 2002

Year	Students	Awards
1995	1,463	\$1,897,143
1996	2,815	\$3,586,763
1997	3,540	\$4,771,556
1998	4,382	\$6,349,763
1999	4,600	\$6,884,035
2000	5,033	\$7,583,425
2001	5,984	\$9,379,520
2002	6,942	\$12,476,996

Many GEAR UP/21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars take advanced high school curricula to earn the Core 40 diploma with a minimum GPA of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale or more advanced courses to earn the Academic Honors Diploma with a minimum GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale. For recipients who graduated from high school in the spring of 2003, there are 956 with an Honors Diploma and 1,832 with a Core 40 diploma.

#### Academic Honors and Core 40

The following table shows the growth in Academic Honors and Core 40 students receiving state aid since 1997 when the Academic Honors program was first introduced as a merit component of the



state need-based grant programs. The Core 40 program was added in 1998.

Students Receiving Extra State Aid 1997-98 To 2002-03

Yea	r Core	e 40 H	Ionors
199′	7		2,267
199	8 2,8	58	4,675
1999	9 5,0	13	6,663
2000	0 6,8	12	8,498
200	1 8,2	45	9,288
2002	2 9,5	57 1	0,837

#### **Outreach Coordination**

SSACI engages in an extensive series of education programs for all its constituents: students from the seventh grade through seniors in high school and college, parents familiar with the college experience and financial aid to those with little or no knowledge of either, high school and college admissions counselors, early intervention program staff, college financial aid staff, state and federal legislators and their staff, and other state and federal government officials. At the start of the 2002-03 school year alone, SSACI made twenty-eight presentations around the state.

Through a variety of media, SSACI educates its constituents on preparing for college, choosing a college, general financial aid strategies, and the specific aid programs offered by the state. A variety of methods are used to get the message across: formal presentations to high school and college groups, publication of brochures, maintenance of a World Wide Web site, booths at various special functions, mailings to students and

parents, on-line access to its databases for college financial aid and admissions offices, hands-on work with students and parents in completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA), in-service training for statewide early intervention staff, support for parents of high school students in arranging college campus visits and Core 40 academic counseling, and direct mailings to seventh and eighth graders and high school students.

#### Targeted Special programs

#### The Hoosier Scholar Program

This scholarship is a one-time \$500 grant given directly to out standing high school students entering their first year at an Indiana college. Students are nominated by their high schools and are usually the top students in their classes.

Hoosier Scholar Program 2002-03

Institution Type	Students	Awards
Public	436	\$218,000
Private	356	\$178,000
Proprietary	2	\$1,000
Total	794	\$397,000

#### The Minority Teacher and Special Education Services Scholarship Program

This program was created to provide renewable scholarships for African American and Hispanic students preparing for a teaching career. Minority students demonstrating financial need may receive up to \$4,000 annually; for non-minority



students the maximum award is \$1,000. Colleges determine the actual amount when reviewing a scholar's financial aid package.

Minority Teacher and Special Education 2002-2003

	0= =000	
Institutional Type	Students	Awards
Public	220	\$301,462
Independent	63	\$80,500
Total	283	\$381,962

#### The State Work Study Program

The program is designed to help students gain work experience and earn money towards their college expenses. It subsidizes the hourly wages of students so that not-for-profit agencies and postsecondary institutions can hire the students within their limited budgets. It is available only to students receiving a need-based state grant in the prior year.

Work Study Program 2002-2003

2002 2002						
Employer	Students	Awards				
Public Institutions	13	\$52,473				
Private Institutions	100	\$48,754				
Not-for-Profit	140	\$285,422				
State Agencies	30	\$120,963				
City & Local Govt.	147	\$403,034				
Totals	430	\$910,646				

## The Nursing Fund Scholarship Program

This program is designed to encourage students to pursue a career in nursing. Certain eligible institutions are allocated

money based on the number of nursing students they enroll. The scholarship is renewable. The maximum annual scholarship is \$5,000 and can only be applied towards tuition and fees. Colleges determine the actual award amount when developing a scholar's financial aid package.

Nursing Scholarship Program 2002-03

2002 03						
Institutional Type	Students	Awards				
Public	380	\$322,000				
Independent	112	\$84,100				
Total	492	\$406,100				

#### The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

The scholarship is designed to promote and award outstanding academic achievement of new college students. It is funded by the federal government but administered by SSACI. It can be used to attend out-of-state colleges.

Byrd Scholarships 2002-2003

	2002-2003	
Institutional	Students	Amount
Type		
In-State		
Public	192	\$272,625
Independent	157	\$232,875
Out-of-State		
Public	48	\$72,500
Independent	167	\$250,500
Total	564	\$828,500



## The Reciprocity Agreement Program

This program provides tuition assistance to Hoosier students residing in a six county area of southeastern Indiana: Dearborn, Franklin, Jefferson, Ohio, Ripley, and Switzerland counties. Three colleges participate in the program: Northern Kentucky University, the University of Cincinnati, and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College. There are two parts to this program: Higher Education Awards to eligible students and direct payments to the schools to offset out-of-state fees.

Reciprocity Agreement Payments 2002-2003

2002							
School	Students*	Payments					
Northern Kentucky	149	\$180,000					
Cincinnati State	184	\$150,886					
Univ. of Cincinnati	60	\$113,000					
Totals	393	\$443,886					
*Student counts are estimated							

#### **Specter Grant**

SSACI administers an Indiana
Department of Correction federal grant
that provides financial aid support for
youth offenders incarcerated after March
10<sup>th</sup> who have earned a GED or high
school diploma and are enrolled in a
higher education program at an eligible
institution. A youth offender is a male or
female under the age of 25 who is eligible

for release within five years (including eligibility for parole). The grants can be used at public or independent colleges that have programs approved by the Department of Corrections and SSACI.

## Specter Federal Grant 2002-03

Institutional	Students	Grants
Type		
Public	75	\$119,925
Independent	32	\$51,168
Total	107	\$171,093

#### **AWARDS GRANTED**

The following tables and charts show the awards used by students and the total expenditures of the Agency for 2002-03.

The first table shows the Higher Education Award and the Freedom of Choice grant broken down by institutional and award type: base awards at 80%, Core 40 at 90% and Academic Honors at 100% subsidy. The second table shows all major awards granted by the Agency: Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards. The tables are summarized in two pie charts.

The third table lists all expenditures by the Agency for 2002-03: grants, programs, and administration. It combines state and federal resources. It is also summarized in a pie chart.



#### **Tables: Summary of Major Awards and Grants**

## Awards Used by Students Academic Year 2002-2003

#### Higher Education and Freedom of Choice Awards by Subsidy Rates By Base 80%, Core 40 90%, and Academic Honors 100% Subsidy Rates

Institutional Type		НЕА	FOC	Base HEA	Base FOC	Core 40 HEA	Core 40 FOC	Honors HEA	Honors FOC
Public	Students	23,473		11,200		6,101		6,172	
	Mean	\$2,177		\$2,036		\$2,194		\$2,416	
	Median	\$2,146		\$2,028		\$2,131		\$2,354	
	Total S	\$51,101,497		\$22,804,221	:	\$13,384,043	9	\$14,913,233	
Private	Students	11,828	11,828	4,778	4,778	2,617	2,617	4,433	4,433
	Mean	\$2,080	\$2,873	\$1,872	\$2,586	\$2,121	\$2,930	\$2,281	\$3,148
	Median	\$2,084	\$2,876	\$1,770	\$2,444	\$2,140	\$2,956	\$2,330	\$3,216
	Total S	\$24,607,096 \$3	33,979,276	\$8,946,458	\$12,355,112	\$5,550,126	\$7,668,877	\$10,110,512\$	313,955,287
Proprietary	Students	1,478		1,320		137		21	
	Mean	\$979		\$964		\$1,062		\$1,423	
	Median	\$1,060		\$1,060		\$894		\$1,845	
	Total	\$1,447,262		\$1,271,830		\$145,539		\$29,893	
Reciprocity	G. I.	104				2.1		10	
Agreement	Students	104		55		31		18	
	Mean	\$1,801		\$1,747		\$2,092		\$1,464	
	Median	\$1,741		\$1,825		\$2,218		\$1,230	
	Total	\$187,295		\$96,083		\$64,854		\$26,358	
Community College									
(IVTSC/VU)	Students	4,971		4,107		671		193	
	Mean	\$1,012		\$975		\$1,140		\$1,333	
	Median	\$844		\$800		\$1,095		\$1,322	
	Total	\$5,028,291		\$4,006,342		\$764,647		\$257,302	
All Schools	Students	41,854	11,828	21,460	4,778	9,557	2,617	10,837	4,433
	Mean	\$1,968	\$2,873	\$1,730	\$2,586	\$2,083	\$2,930	\$2,338	\$3,148
	Median	\$1,778	\$2,876	\$1,560	\$2,444	\$1,970	\$2,956	\$2,308	\$3,216
	Total S	\$82,371,441 \$3	33,979,276	\$37,124,934	\$12,355,112	\$19,909,209	\$7,668,877	\$25,337,298\$	513,955,287



Awards Used by Students Academic Year 2002-2003 Higher Education, Freedom of Choice, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship, National Guard, and Part-time Awards

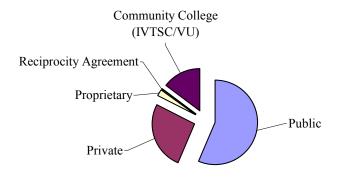
Institutional Type		All Awards	HEA	FOC	21 <sup>st</sup> Scholarships	National Guard Awards	Part-time Awards
Public	Students	27,206	23,473		4,485	732	2,909
	Mean	\$2,373	\$2,177		\$1,968	\$2,748	\$903
	Median	\$2,284	\$2,146		\$1,526	\$2,350	\$840
	Total	\$64,567,830	\$51,101,497		\$8,826,856	\$2,011,809	\$2,627,668
Private	Students	12,633	11,828	11,828	1,080		918
	Mean	\$4,918	\$2,080	\$2,873	\$2,064		\$1,433
	Median	\$4,789	\$2,084	\$2,876	\$1,860		\$1,200
	Total	\$62,131,372	\$24,607,096	\$33,979,276	\$2,229,336		\$1,315,664
Proprietary	Students	1,526	1,478		191		
	Mean	\$1,066	\$979		\$941		
	Median	\$1,060	\$1,060		\$676		
	Total	\$1,626,937	\$1,447,262		\$179,675		
Reciprocity Agreement	Students	104	104				
	Mean	\$1,801	\$1,801				
	Median	\$1,741	\$1,741				
	Total	\$187,295	\$187,295				
Community College							
(IVTSC/VU)	Students	7,127	4,971		1,186	191	1,937
	Mean	\$1,035	\$1,012		\$1,046	\$1,063	\$468
	Median	\$910	\$844		\$806	\$910	\$476
	Total	\$7,378,737	\$5,028,291		\$1,241,099	\$202,978	\$906,369
All Schools	Students	48,596	41,854	11,828	6,942	923	5,764
	Mean	\$2,796	\$1,968	\$2,873	\$1,797	\$2,400	\$841
	Median	\$2,240	\$1,778	\$2,876	\$1,416	\$2,108	\$670
	Total	\$135,892,171	\$82,371,441	\$33,979,276	\$12,476,966	\$2,214,787	\$4,849,701



#### Charts: Comparison of Students and Grants in 2002-2003 by Institutional Type

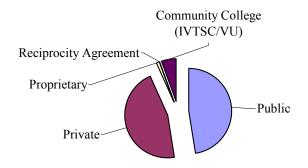
#### **Students Receiving State Grants by Institutional Type**

Students Receiving State Aid in 2002-2003 By Institutional Type



#### **Total State Grants by Institutional Type**

Total State Grants in 2002-2003 by Institutional Type





#### Table: Summary of All Grant and Administrative Expenditures: 2002-2003

Expenditures From All Sources, State And Federal	2002-03
Programs, Awards & Grants	
Higher Education Award	\$82,371,441
Freedom of Choice	\$33,979,276
Hoosier Scholars	\$395,500
Reciprocity Agreements	\$550,860
Part-time Grant	\$4,849,701
National Guard Grant	\$2,214,787
Specter Grant	\$301,593
Fee Remission	\$12,897,539
Minority and Special Education Teacher	\$385,963
Scholarship Program	\$0
State College Work Study	\$481,217
Nursing Scholarship	\$438,147
21st Century Scholarships	\$12,476,966
21st Century Early Intervention	\$2,120,987
21st Century Early Intervention Gear Up	\$3,936,625
Robert C. Byrd Scholarships	\$805,189
Total Awards & Grants	\$158,205,791
Administrative Expenditures	
Scholarships & Grants	\$1,201,099
Minority and Special Education Teacher	\$5,822
Sch Plans Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program	\$0
State College Work Study	\$133,692
Nursing Scholarship Program	\$32,687
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship Program	\$0
Department of Corrections Grant	\$0
21st Century Administration	\$501,239
Total Administrative Expenditures	\$1,874,539
Total Expenditures	\$160,080,330



#### Chart: Combined Program, Award, and Grant Expenditures 2002-2003

#### Program, Award and Grant Expenditures 2002-2003

